

Great Brit Coll. Aug 2. 5688.
THE *883.d.16*

ROYAL CHARTER,

Establishing an *883.d.26*
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HOSPITAL

FOR THE

Maintenance and Education

Of Exposed and Deserted

YOUNG CHILDREN.



LONDON,

Printed by *John Baskett*, Printer to the King's
most Excellent Majesty. 1740.

THE
ROYAL CHARTER
HOSPITAL
FOR THE



LONDON
Printed by J. B. Smith, Printer to the King's
at the Royal Hospital, 1740.

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The ROYAL CHARTER, establishing an Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children.

GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of God, and so forth, ~~to whom these~~ Presents shall come, Greeting.

Whereas Our Trusty and Well-beloved Subject, *Thomas Coram*, Gentleman, in behalf of great Numbers of helpless Infants, daily exposed to Destruction, has by his Petition, humbly represented unto Us, that many Persons of Quality and Distinction, as well as others, of both Sexes, (being sensible of the frequent Murders committed on poor miserable Infants by their Parents, to hide their Shame, and the inhuman Custom of exposing new-born Children to perish in the Streets, or training them up in Idleness, Beggary, and

Theft) have, by Instruments in Writing, declared their Intentions to contribute liberally towards the erecting an Hospital, after the Example of other Christian Countries, and for supporting the same, for the Reception, Maintenance, and proper Education of such helpless Infants, as soon as We should be graciously pleased to grant Our Letters Patent for that good Purpose: That several Legacies having been bequeathed for the same, to be paid by Executors, when any such Hospital shall be properly established here; the Petitioner therefore hath humbly prayed Us, that We would be graciously pleased to grant Our Royal Charter for incorporating such Persons, as We shall think fit, for receiving and disposing of Charities for erecting and supporting an Hospital for the Reception, Maintenance, and proper Education of such exposed and cast-off Children as may be brought to it, under such Rules and Regulations, as to Us may seem meet.

We, taking the Premisses into Our Royal Consideration, and being desirous to promote so good and laudable an Establishment, are graciously pleased to gratify the Petitioner in his Request.

Know ye therefore, That We, of Our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, have willed, ordained, constituted, and appointed, and by these Presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors,

Do

Do will, ordain, constitute, declare, and grant, That [*The Governors Names*] and such others, as shall from time to time be elected in the Manner herein after directed, they and their Successors be, and shall for ever hereafter be, by virtue of these Presents, one Body Politick and Corporate, in Deed and in Name, by the Name of *The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children*; and them and their Successors by the same Name, We do by these Presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, constitute and declare to be one Body Politick and Corporate, in Deed and in Law; and by the same Name they and their Successors shall and may have perpetual Succession; and that they and their Successors, by that Name, shall and may for ever hereafter be Persons able and capable in the Law, and may have Power, notwithstanding the Statute of Mortmain, to purchase, have, take, receive, and enjoy, to them and their Successors, Manors, Messuages, Lands, Rents, Tenements, Annuities, and Hereditaments, of whatsoever Nature or Kind, in Fee and Perpetuity, or for Terms of Life or Years, not exceeding the yearly Value of Four thousand Pounds beyond Reprizes, so far as they are not restrained by Law; and all Manner of Goods, and Chattels, and Things whatsoever, of what Nature or Value soever, for the better Sup-

Name of
the Cor-
poration.

Power to
enjoy
4000 l. a
Year,

Goods
and Chat-
tels;

port and Maintenance of such poor, deserted Children, as shall be received into the said Hospital, in the Manner herein after mentioned; and also to sell, grant, demise, exchange, and dispose of any of the same Manors, Messuages, Lands, and Tenements, whereof and wherein they shall have any Estate of Inheritance, or for Life, Lives, or Years, as aforesaid; and that by the Name aforesaid they shall and may be able to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all Courts and Pleas whatsoever of Us, Our Heirs and Successors, in all Actions, Complaints, Matters, and Demands whatsoever, and to act and do in all Matters and Things relating to the said Corporation, in as ample Manner and Form, as any other Our liege Subjects, being Persons able and capable in the Law, or any other Body Politick or Corporate in this Part of Our Kingdom of *Great Britain* called *England*, lawfully may or can act or do; and that the said Corporation for ever hereafter shall and may have and use a common Seal for the Causes and Business of them and their Successors; and that it shall and may be lawful for them, and their Successors, to change, break, alter, and make new the said Seal from time to time, as they shall think fit.

And, for the better Execution of the Purposes aforesaid, **We do declare and grant,**

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be sued;

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a com-
mon Seal.

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grant, That the said Corporation, and One President, six
 their Successors for ever, shall have One Vice-pres-
 President, Six Vice-presidents, and One sidents,
 Treasurer; and that *John Duke of Bedford* be the first President; that *Micajah* er.
Perry, Lord *Vere Beauclerk*, Sir *Joseph* Names of
Eyles, *Martin Folkes*, *Peter Burrel*, and the first in
James Cook be the Six first Vice-presidents; those Of-
 fices;
 and that *Lewis Way* be the first Treasurer
 of the said Corporation, each of them re-
 spectively to continue in their several and to conti-
 respective Offices of President, Vice-pre- nue until
 sidents, and Treasurer, until the second the se-
Wednesday in *May*, One thousand seven hun- cond
 dred and forty, and until others shall be *Wednes-*
 chosen in their respective Rooms. *day* in
May,
 1740.

And Our Will and Pleasure is,
 That the said President, Vice-presidents, First
 and Treasurer, and the rest of the Mem- Meeting
 bers of the said Corporation also above- within 40
 named, or as many of them the said Pre- Days.
 sident, Vice-presidents, and Members as
 conveniently can, may, within Forty Days
 next after the Date of this Our Grant, meet
 together at such Time and Place as the said
 President shall appoint by Summons, or
 other Notice, which he is by these Presents
 impowered and required timely to issue for
 that Purpose, to the said Members, or such
 of them as live within the Cities of *London*
 or *Westminster*, or the Borough of *South-*
wark, or within Two Miles thereof; where
 A 4 they,

May they, or the major Part of them then pre-
 chuse one sent, may chuse by Ballot One or more Se-
 or more cretaries, and such other inferior Officers
 Secreta- and Servants as shall be thought convenient
 ries, and and useful for the Purposes of the said Cor-
 other Of- poration, and to serve in the said Offices
 ficers and respectively, until the second *Wednesday* in
 Servants, the Month of *May*, One thousand seven
 to serve hundred and forty, and until others shall
 until the be elected in their respective Rooms, un-
 second less they shall sooner die, or be removed;
Wednes- and at such Meetings One or more Com-
day in mittee or Committees shall be chosen out
May, of the Members of the said Corporation,
 1740. to consist of such Number and Persons, as
 to the said General Court shall seem pro-
 per; which Committee or Committees
 shall continue until the said second *Wed-*
nesday in the Month of *May*, in the said
 Year One thousand seven hundred and for-
 ty, and shall have Power to direct, ma-
 nage, and transact all the Business, Affairs,
 Estate, and Effects of the said Corpora-
 tion, and take in, receive, maintain, and
 employ such poor deserted Children, ac-
 cording to such Rules and Directions as
 shall be made and established from time to
 time by General Courts; to which said
 General Courts We do by these Presents,
 for Us, Our Heirs, and Successors, give
 and grant full Power and Authority to
 make and establish such Rules and Direc-
 tions for the Reception, Maintenance, and
 Employment

One or
 more
 Commit-
 tee or
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 tees to be
 chosen;
 to conti-
 nue until
 the se-
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Wednes-
day in
May,
 1740.
 have
 Power to
 direct,
 manage,
 and trans-
 act, and
 take in
 Children,
 according
 to such
 Rules and
 Direc-
 tions as
 shall be
 made by
 General
 Courts,

Employment of such poor deserted Children, as they, or the major Part of them shall think meet, fit, and convenient, from time to time; and for that Purpose such Committee or Committees may erect or purchase such fitting Place to be an Hospital for the Reception of such Children.

And Our further Will is, That on every second *Wednesday* in the Month of *May* yearly, there shall and may be a General Meeting of the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation in the said Hospital, or at some other convenient Place, until the said Hospital be made ready to receive them, for the electing by Ballot all succeeding Presidents, Vice-presidents, Treasurers, and Committees out of the Members of the said Corporation, by Majority of Votes of all the Members then personally present, to continue in their respective Offices until the second *Wednesday* in the said Month of *May* following, and until others shall be chosen in their respective Rooms; and that all succeeding Secretaries, and other inferior Officers and Servants, be annually appointed, or oftner, if needful, by the major Part of the Governors and Guardians for the time being, then present at their General Meeting; and in case of an Equality of Votes, the President, or in case of his Death or Absence, Servants, to be annually appointed, or oftner, if needful, at General Meetings.

the

the Vice-president first named in the List of Vice-presidents then present, to have a double or casting Voice, and at such Salaries as they shall think reasonable.

Four
stated
General
Meetings
on the
first *Wed-*
nesday af-
ter *Lady-*
day, *Mid-*
summer,
Michael-
mas, and
Christ-
mas.
May then
execute
Leases,
and make
By-laws.

We will moreover, That there shall be every Year four stated General Meetings of the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, to be held on the first *Wednesdays* after *Lady-day*, *Midsummer*, *Michaelmas* and *Christmas* Days respectively ; at which Meetings, and no other, the said Corporation, or the major Part of the Members thereof then present, shall and may execute Leases for Years, and make By-laws for the Well-government of the said Corporation ; which By-laws, not being repugnant to the Laws and Statutes of this Our Realm, shall and may be effectually observed and kept.

No By-
laws bind-
ing, until
confirm'd
by a suc-
ceeding
General
Meeting ;
and same
Method
to alter or
repeal any
By-laws.
At Quar-
terly
Meetings
may re-
move and
displace
Officers
or Servants,

Provided nevertheless, and Our Will is, That no such By-laws so to be made by this Corporation shall be binding, until the same shall be confirmed by some succeeding General Meeting ; and that the same Method be observed in the altering or repealing any such By-laws, after they shall have been so confirmed : And the Members to be present at such Quarterly Meetings, or the major Part of them then present, are hereby impowered, from time to time, to remove and displace any Officers or Servants belong-
ing

ing to the said Hospital, for Misdemeanors, and put
at their Will and Pleasure, and to put others to their
into their Rooms from time to time: And Rooms.

We do hereby also impower the Commit- Any 5 or
tee for the time being, or any Five or more of
more of them, on any just Cause, to su- the Com-
spend, remove, and displace any inferior mittee
Officers or Servants, and to put others in have
their Rooms, until the next General or Power to
Quarterly Court or Meeting. suspend,
and, dis-
place any

inferior Officers or Servants, and put others in their Rooms,
until the next General or Quarterly Meeting.

Provided, That no Act in any Quar- 13 or more
terly or other General Meeting be valid, to be pre-
unless Thirteen or more Members be pre- sent at
sent, and the major Part of such as shall Quarter-
be present be consenting thereto. ly or Ge-
neral
Meetings.

We will moreover, That the said At any
Corporation, and their Successors, or the Yearly,
major Part of such of them as shall be pre- Quarter-
sent at any Yearly or Quarterly Court, or ly, or o-
ther Ge-
neral
Meeting,
which the Presi-
dent has by these Presents Power to sum- which the
mon at any other Times, as there shall be President
has Power
to sum-
mon at a-
ny other
Times, as
there shall
be Occa-
sion, may,
by Ballot,
elect Go-
vernors to
be Mem-
bers of the
Corpora-
tion.

Occasion, may, by Ballot, elect Governors to be Members of the said Corporation, and as such shall

shall be summoned and admitted to vote and act by Virtue of these Presents, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes, as if their Names respectively were particularly inserted to be Members thereof in and by this Our Charter.

The Corporation, and their Successors, to appoint Persons to take Subscriptions, and collect Monies.

And We will moreover, That the said Corporation, and their Successors, shall have Power to authorize and appoint such Persons as they shall think fit to take Subscriptions, and to ask of all or any of Our good Subjects, and gather and collect such Monies as shall, by any Person or Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate, Companies, or other Societies, be contributed and given for the Purposes aforesaid ; and may revoke and make void such Authorities and Appointments, as often as they may see Cause so to do.

Accounts in Writing to be kept of all Receipts, Payments, and Doings ; to be inspected by any Benefactor upon Occasion. 20th December in every Year, or within 14

And Our further Will and Pleasure is, That the said Corporation shall and may cause fair and just Accounts in Writing to be kept of all Receipts, Payments, and Doings, by them, their Officers, and Agents respectively, in relation to the Premises, which shall be liable to the View and Inspection of any Subscriber or Subscribers, Benefactor or Benefactors, upon Occasion ; which said Accounts shall, on the Twentieth Day of *December* in every Year, or within Fourteen Days after, be examined, audited, adjusted, and subscribed by

by the Members present at such Meeting, Days, the
or the major Part of them. Accounts
to be ex-

amined and audited by the Members present at such Meeting.

We will moreover, That all Persons All Per-
who shall subscribe and pay to the said sons pay-
Corporation to the Amount of Twenty ing 20 $\text{\textit{l}}$.
Pounds, or more, or of Forty Shillings, or 40 $\text{\textit{s}}$. or
or more, annually, shall have free Liberty more, an-
to inspect the said Hospital, and inform nually, to
themselves of the State thereof, and of the have Li-
Manner of nursing, dieting, managing, in- berty to
structing, and employing the Children inspect
therein. the Ho-
spital.

And further We will, That in all In all Ge-
General Courts, the President, or, in case neral
of his Death or Absence, the Vice-presi- Courts
dent first named in the List of Vice-presi- the Presi-
dents then present, be the Chairman of the dent, or,
said Court, and to have a casting Voice in in case of
case of an Equality of Votes. Death or
Absence,
the Vice-
president

first named in the List of Vice-presidents then present to be the
Chairman.

And lastly Our Will and Pleasure
is, That these Our Letters Patent, or the
Inrolment or Exemplification thereof, shall
be good, firm, valid, and effectual in the
Law, according to Our Royal Intentions
herein before declared ; and shall be taken,
construed, and adjudged, in all Our Courts,
and elsewhere, in the most favourable and
beneficial Sense, and for the best Advan-
tage of the said Corporation, and their Suc-
cessors ; any Omission, Imperfection, De-
fect,

fect, Matter, Cause, or Thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding, without Fine or Fee, great or small, to be for the same in any Manner rendered, done, or paid to Us in Our Hanaper, or elsewhere, to Our Use.

In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourself at *Westminster*, the Seventeenth Day of *October*, in the Thirteenth Year of Our Reign.

By Writ of Privy Seal,

C O C K S.



to with preceding

Anno Regni

GEORGII II.

R E G I S

Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ,

DECIMO TERTIO.

At the Parliament begun and holden at
Westminster, the Fourteenth Day of
January, Anno Dom. 1734. In the Eighth
Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord
GEORGE II. by the Grace of God, of
Great Britain, France, and Ireland King,
Defender of the Faith, &c.

And from thence continued by several Prorogations
to the Fifteenth Day of *November*, 1739, being
the Sixth Session of this present Parliament.



L O N D O N,

Printed by *John Baskett*, Printer to the
King's most Excellent Majesty. 1740.

Amo Regni

GEORGE II. REGIS

Magna Britannia, Franciae, &c. Regibus

DECIMO TERTIO

At the Parliament begun and holden at
Westminster, the fourth day of
January, Anno Regis 13. In the
second time of our Sovereign Lord
GEORGE II. by the Commandment
of that his Majesty, I, John
Baskett, of the County of
Middlesex, Esquire, one of the
Privy Counsellors, do hereby
certify, that the within
written Bill, intituled, "An
Act for the better
regulating the
Trade of the
Wine of the
Country of
France," hath
been read twice
in the said
Parliament,
and hath
received the
assent of
the said
Parliament.



LONDON

Printed by John Baskett, Printer to the
King's most Excellent Majesty, 1740.

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mur
Pare

Anno decimo tertio

GEORGII II. Regis.

An Act for confirming and enlarging the Powers granted by His Majesty to the Governors and Guardians of the Hospital, for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children, by His most Gracious Charter, bearing Date the Seventeenth Day of October, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and thirty nine, and to enable them to execute the good Purposes of the said Charter.

Whereas His Majesty, in Com-^{Pream-}
passion to the Numbers of ^{ble.}
poor Infants, who are liable to
be exposed to perish in the Streets, or be
murdered by their indigent and inhuman
Parents, has been most graciously pleased,
B by

by His Royal Charter under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, to create and establish a Corporation or Body Politick, by the Name of *The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children*; which Corporation is by the said Charter declared to have perpetual Succession, and impowered to take, hold, purchase, receive, and possess Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, to the Value of Four thousand Pounds a Year, and Goods, Chattels, and Personal Estate of what Nature and Value soever; and to purchase or erect an Hospital for the Support, Maintenance, and Education of exposed and deserted Children; and to hold Courts, to make By-laws, and to elect Governors and Officers, and to do other Acts for the Purposes of the said Charter: And whereas great Sums of Money have been given by the Governors of the said Hospital, and other Persons, to be applied to the charitable Uses before mentioned: And whereas by Reason of the Laws now in Force, for the Relief of the Poor, many Difficulties may arise in carrying into Execution the good Intents of the said Charter, and that the granting other and further Powers to the said Corporation is requisite, effectually to answer the Purposes aforesaid; may it please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent

lent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said Corporation, called *The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children*, and their Successors, shall have Power, by any Instrument under their common Seal, to contract for, or to purchase any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, provided the same do not exceed the Value of Four thousand Pounds a Year in Fee, beyond Reprizes, or to take or purchase for any Term or Terms of Years, or as Tenants, from Year to Year, or at Will, any Lands or Tenements whatsoever, to hold and enjoy the same, and to erect any House or Houses, Building or Buildings thereon, or to convert any House or Houses, Building or Buildings, which they shall so purchase or hire for that Purpose, to be an Hospital or Hospitals for the Reception of such poor and exposed Children, in such Manner as to the said Corporation shall seem meet.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every House or Houses, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments which shall at any Time hereafter be purchased or hired by the said Corporation, to be used or converted into an Hospital or Hospitals, as aforesaid, or on

Guardians may purchase Lands, &c. not exceeding 4000 l. per Ann.

Taxes on Lands, &c. not to be raised above what was paid in 1739.

which any such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses shall be erected, shall at all Times hereafter, whilst such House or Houses, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments shall continue in the Possession of the said Corporation, be rated and assessed to all Rates and Assessments, at such yearly Rents or Value, and in such Proportion, as such House or Houses, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments were rated and assessed in the Year One thousand seven hundred thirty and nine, and shall not at any Time hereafter, so long as they shall continue in the Possession of the said Corporation, as aforesaid, be rated or assessed at any higher Value, notwithstanding any Improvement which shall be hereafter made by the said Corporation, of or upon the same, by erecting any such House or Houses, or other Building or Buildings thereon, or by converting any Building or Buildings into such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

though
improved
for the
Use of
the Cor-
poration.

And that the said Corporation may not be prevented from erecting or enjoying such Buildings as may be most convenient for the Purposes aforesaid, by the Incapacity or legal Disability of any Person or Persons to convey, though on Terms which would be for the Benefit and Advantage of such Person or Persons; be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all
Bodies

Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations aggregate or sole, Femmes Covert, who are or shall be seized in their own Right, Trustees and Feoffees in Trust, Guardians and Committees for Lunaticks and Ideots, Executors, Administrators, and Guardians whatsoever, not only for or on Behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, but also for and on Behalf of their *Cestuique* Trusts, whether Infants or Issue unborn, Lunaticks, Ideots, Femmes Covert, or other Person whatsoever, and to and for all and every Person and Persons, who are or shall be seized or possessed of, or interested in any Lands, Messuages, or Tenements, which the said Corporation shall judge to be proper to be by them purchased or hired, in order to the erecting such House or Houses, Building or Buildings, as aforesaid, or to the converting any House or Houses, Building or Buildings to their Use, as aforesaid, to contract for, sell, convey, or to farm let to the said Corporation, or their Successors, or such Persons as they shall appoint in Trust for them, all or any such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof: Provided, That every such Contract so to be made, by or on Behalf of any Person, under any Incapacity to convey, be, before it is carried into Execution, approved of by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Keeper, or the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal of

Femmes Covert, &c. may sell Lands or Tenements to the Corporation.

Conveyances to be approved of by the Lord Chancellor, &c.

Great Britain for the time being, on a Petition or Petitions to him or them exhibited on Behalf of such Person or Persons for that Purpose; and the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Keeper, or Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal for the time being, are hereby impowered, authorized, and required, in a summary Way, without any Bill filed, to examine into the Allegations of any such Petition, and to approve or disapprove of any such Contract, and to give such Direction for the Disposition of the Money arising therefrom, as to him or them shall seem just; and that all such Contracts, Agreements, Bargains, Sales, and Conveyances, which shall be so made, as aforesaid, shall be good and valid in Law, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, not only to convey the Estate and Interest of the Person or Persons conveying, but also to convey all Right, Estate, Interest, Use, Property, Claim, and Demand whatsoever, of their several and respective *Cestuique* Trusts, whether Infants, or Issue unborn, Lunaticks, Ideots, Femes Covert, or other Person whatsoever, and all Persons claiming, or to claim by, from, or under them; any Law, Statute, Usage, or any other Matter or Thing whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Sum and Sums of Money arising from

or

or paid by the said Corporation to any Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations aggregate or sole, Femes Covert, who are or shall be seized in their own Right, Trustees or Feoffees in Trust, Guardians or Committees for Lunaticks or Ideots, Executors, Administrators, or Guardians, as aforesaid, as the Consideration or Purchase-money for any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments for erecting such House or Houses, Building or Buildings for an Hospital or Hospitals for the Reception of such Poor and exposed Children, shall be laid out in the Purchase of other Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, to be settled to the same Uses, and stand charged with, and liable to the same Charge or Charges, as the Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments so sold and conveyed were settled, liable to, and chargeable with; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporation, or any Person or Persons authorized by them, to receive, maintain, and educate all or as many Children as they shall think fit, into or in any Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, which shall by the said Corporation be erected, purchased, or hired for such Purposes; and that it shall be lawful for all and every Person whatsoever to bring

Money paid for Lands or Tenements to Femes Covert, &c. to be laid out in other Lands, made liable to the same Uses.

Corporation to maintain and educate as many Children as they think fit.

No Church-warden, &c. to hinder any Persons bringing their Children to the Hospital,

on Penalty of 40s.

No Parish Officer shall have any Authority in the Hospital.

any Child or Children whatsoever to any such Hospital or House, as aforesaid, to the end that such Child or Children may be received, maintained, and educated by the said Corporation therein, in case they shall think proper to receive the same; and that no Church-warden, Overseer, or other Person whatsoever, shall, by Virtue or Authority of any Law in being, for the Provision or Maintenance of the Poor, or for Bastard Children, stop, molest, or disturb any Person in bringing any such Child or Children to any such Hospital or House, as aforesaid, or in returning from the same; and that every Church-warden, Overseer, or other Person whatsoever, stopping, disturbing, or molesting any such Person or Persons, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning hereof, shall forfeit the Sum of Forty Shillings for every such Offence; Half of which shall be paid to the Informer, and Half to the Use of the said Hospital; which Forfeiture shall be levied by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of any Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County, Liberty, or Franchise where such Offence shall be committed.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Church-warden or Church-wardens, or other Officer, appointed for the Care and Maintenance of the Poor, shall have or exercise any Power or

Autho-

Authority in any such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, which shall be appointed for the Reception of such poor Children, as aforesaid, nor shall have any Authority to enquire concerning the Birth or Settlement of any such Child or Children, who shall be therein maintained and educated, or to place them out Apprentices, or to do any other Act, Matter, or Thing whatsoever, within such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or Places, appointed by the said Corporation for the Reception, Maintenance, or Education of such Children, as aforesaid, save only to collect or levy such Taxes, as they are or shall be by any Act of Parliament impowered to levy and collect.

And be it further enacted, That no Child or Children, Nurse or Nurses, Servant or Servants, received, maintained, educated, or employed within any such Hospital or Hospitals, Place or Places, which shall be built, purchased, hired, or appointed by the said Corporation for the Reception, Maintenance, or Education of such poor Children, as aforesaid, shall gain any Settlement in the Parish or Parishes, Place or Places, where such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or Places are situate, by virtue of such their Reception, Continuance, Hiring, or Residence in such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or Places ; any Law, Custom, Usage, Matter,

No Settlement
by being
educated
in the
Hospital.

No Fees
due to
any Pa-
rish for
Christen-
ings or
Burials.

Corpora-
tion to
provide
Minister
and Bu-
rial
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Persons
educated
in the
Hospital,

Matter, or Thing whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. Nor shall any Mortuary Fee, or Reward whatsoever, be due or payable to any Rector, Vicar, Curate, Minister, Clerk, Sexton, or other Officer of any Parish or Parishes, where such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or Places shall be situate, for or on Account of the Christening, Death, or Burial of any Child or Children, who shall be so maintained and educated by the said Corporation, as aforesaid, who shall be christened, die, or be buried during their Continuance under the Care of the said Corporation: And the Offices of Baptism and Burial of all such Children, shall be performed by such Minister or Ministers of the Church of *England*, as the said Corporation shall agree with and employ for that Purpose; and no other Person or Persons whatsoever shall be obliged to perform the same: And the said Corporation shall provide sufficient Burial Ground for all Children dying under their Care; and shall not be intitled to make use of any Church-yard or Burial Place belonging to the Parishioners of any Parish, for the burying of any such Child or Children.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation, or any Person or Persons who shall be by them authorized and appointed, to detain and employ

employ in any Sort of Labour or Manu-^{how to be}
 facture, or in the Sea Service, all and eve-^{employ-}
 ry such Child or Children by them so main-^{ed.}
 tained and educated, till such Children shall
 attain the respective Ages following; that
 is to say, Until every such Male Child shall
 attain his Age of Twenty four Years, and
 every such Female Child shall attain her
 Age of Twenty one Years, or shall be
 married; or to bind any such Child or
 Children Apprentice or Apprentices to any
 Person or Persons who shall be willing to
 take the same, or to place them out as
 Servants, or as Mariners, to any Husband-
 man, Master, or Captain of a Ship, or
 other Person whatsoever, till their said re-
 spective Ages, as aforesaid; and that every
 such Binding or Hiring shall be as effectual
 to all Purposes, as if such Child were of full
 Age, and by Indenture or otherwise had
 bound or hired themselves.

And further, That it shall be lawful to
 the said Corporation, or any Person or Per-^{Children}
 sons by them authorized and impowered for^{may be let}
 that Purpose, at any time or times, so long^{for Hire,}
 as any Child or Children shall continue to^{to work}
 be maintained by the said Corporation, to^{abroad for}
 hire or let out such Child or Children to^{the Use}
 any Person or Persons who shall desire to^{of the}
 contract with the said Corporation, for the^{Hospital.}
 Work and Labour of such Child or Chil-
 dren, and to receive and take to the Use
 of the said Corporation, the Profit arising
 for

for such their Work and Labour, and to give such reasonable Correction to any such Child or Children for their Idleness, Disobedience, or Misbehaviour, as they shall think proper ; and that every such Child or Children shall be under the Direction and Controul of the said Corporation, so long as they shall continue to maintain such Child or Children.

President, &c.
to be
chose an-
nually.

And be it further enacted by the Authority afore said, That the President, Vice-presidents, and Treasurer of the said Corporation, shall respectively continue as such, until there shall be others chosen into their respective Offices ; and that for that Purpose there shall, on the second *Wednesday*, which shall be in the Month of *May* next, and so on every second *Wednesday* in the Month of *May* yearly, for ever, be a general Meeting of the Governors and Guardians of the said Hospital ; and that the Governors and Guardians then present, shall proceed to the Election of a President, Six Vice-presidents, and a Treasurer ; which Election shall be by Ballot, and determined by the Majority of the Votes of the Governors and Guardians present at such Election ; and in case it shall happen at any time or times hereafter, that the said Election cannot be made or compleated on the second *Wednesday* in the Month of *May* next, or in any other Year, that then, and as often as it shall so happen, such new Election

Election shall be made within the Space of Forty Days, to be computed from such second *Wednesday* in *May*; and for that Purpose the Majority of the Governors and Guardians then present, shall have Power to adjourn such Meeting to any Day within such Forty Days; Notice of which Adjournment, as also of all other General Meetings, shall be given in the *Gazette*, and also (in case the said Governors and Guardians present at any Meeting, or the major Part of them shall so direct) in any other publick News Paper, at least Three Days before such General Meeting, whether annual, quarterly, or special. And the Persons elected at any such Meeting or Meetings, by Ballot, as aforesaid, by the Majority of the Votes of the Governors and Guardians present at such Meeting, shall be, and are hereby empowered to act as President, Vice-presidents, and Treasurer of the said Corporation for the Year next ensuing such their Election, and till others shall be elected into the said Offices.

Provided, That when and so often as any Vacancy or Vacancies shall happen by Death of any of the Presidents, Vice-presidents, or Treasurers of the said Corporation, the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, or the major Part of them, shall have Power, at the next General or Quarterly Court that shall be kept and held by them, after such Vacancy or Vacancies

On Death
of Presi-
dent, &c.
others to
be chosen.

shall happen, to proceed to a new Election of a President, Vice-president, or Treasurer, in the Place of the Person or Persons deceased; all which Elections shall be by way of Ballot, in such Manner, as aforesaid: And for the better ordering and managing the Affairs of the said Corporation, **be it further enacted**, That the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation for the time being, or the major Part of them, are hereby impowered, at any of the General or Quarterly Courts, which shall, from time to time, be kept and held by them, to chuse and appoint One or more Committee or Committees, as Occasion shall require, for transacting such Business, and auditing the Accompts of the said Corporation, and to require the Treasurer, Officers, and Servants of the said Corporation to accompt at such Times, and in such Manner, as they shall direct, and for such other Purposes as they shall think fit; and at the said General and Quarterly Courts shall have Power to examine, allow, and pass such Accompts, and to make such By-laws as they shall think proper, for the better Government of the said Corporation: **Provided**, That no By-law so made shall have any Force or Effect till approved of by the next Quarterly General Court; **and provided also**, That the same be not inconsistent with the Laws and Statutes of this Realm.

Provided

Provided always, and it is hereby Provido.
further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That none of the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, or any of their Successors, who shall hereafter be elected Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, or any Officers of the said Corporation, shall be obliged to take the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or any Oath or Oaths whatsoever, to qualify them to execute the Office of President, Vice-president, Treasurer, or any other Office, or to discharge any Trust relating to the said Corporation; any Law, Statute, Custom, or Usage to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That such of the Governors of the said Corporation for the time being, who shall be present at any of the said General Courts or Meetings, or the major Part of them, or any Committee or Committees chosen by the said Corporation, and impowered by them so to do, shall have Power from time to time, and at all times, to elect, suspend, remove, or displace any Officer or Officers, Servant or Servants belonging to the said Corporation, at their Discretion, without any Cause assigned.

And be it further enacted, That in case any inferior Officer or Servant shall refuse to accompt, as aforesaid, or to produce
Governors may remove Officers and Servants at Pleasure.
Servants obliged to accompt.
any

any Papers, Books, Vouchers, or other Effects whatsoever, which he, she, or they shall be intrusted with, by or on account of the said Corporation, that it shall and may be lawful for any Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the County, Liberty, or Franchise where such Servant shall be found, on Complaint made on the Part of the said Corporation, to commit any such inferior Officer or Servant to the common Gaol of the said County, Liberty, or Franchise, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until he or she hath made a true Accompt, and satisfied and paid so much, as upon the said Accompt shall be remaining in his or her Hands, and has delivered up to the said Corporation such Papers, Books, Vouchers, or other Effects.

Publick
Act.

And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be a publick Act, and be so deemed and taken to be, and shall and may in all Cases be given in Evidence on the General Issue, and not be specially pleaded.

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